

COMMUNITY: Conflict and Communication

June 26, 2016

All relationships have conflict, but good relationships _____.

- Love and conflict are not _____.
*Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but an enemy multiplies kisses. **Proverbs 27:6 (NIV)***
- If your enemy is the first to point out your flaws, you may not have any _____.

Good Relationships Are No Accident.

What causes conflict?	Differences	Misunderstandings
Poor communication	Hurt feelings	Unmet expectations
Pride	Selfishness	Jealousy

James 4:1-3 (NIV) *What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? 2 You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God. 3 When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.*

Conflict is a big deal to God. Why? Because...

1. _____ is a big deal. *"My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, 21 that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. **John 17:20-21 (NIV)***
2. _____ are a big deal. *"Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, 24 leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift. **Matthew 5:23-24 (NIV)***
3. _____ is a big deal. *Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it. **Proverbs 4:23 (NIV)***

Choices in Conflict:

1. I choose to _____ and not _____.
*"Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." **Romans 12:21***
Do the right thing, no matter what the other person _____!

2. I choose to _____ and not _____.
*"Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold." **Ephesians 4:26-27***

Anytime we refuse to talk, we invite the devil in to get a _____.

Communication Coaching:

1. Be responsible for what they _____.
2. Own your _____.
3. Make it issue-oriented, not _____.
4. Listen _____.
5. Choose the right _____ and _____.

3. I choose to focus on the _____ and not _____.
*"Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable--if anything is excellent or praiseworthy-- think about such things." **Philippians 4:8***

Always look for the _____.

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 (MSG) *Love never gives up. Love cares more for others than for self. Love doesn't want what it doesn't have. Love doesn't strut, doesn't have a swelled head, doesn't force itself on others, isn't always "me first," doesn't fly off the handle, doesn't keep score of the sins of others, doesn't revel when others grovel, takes pleasure in the flowering of truth, puts up with anything, trusts God always, always looks for the best, never looks back, but keeps going to the end.*